

SPIDER-MAN UNMASKED

MARVEL
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ROBERTO AGUIRRE-SACASA • SEAN CHEN • SCOTT HANNA • DAN KEMP



The Sensational **SPIDER-MAN**



DIRECT EDITION



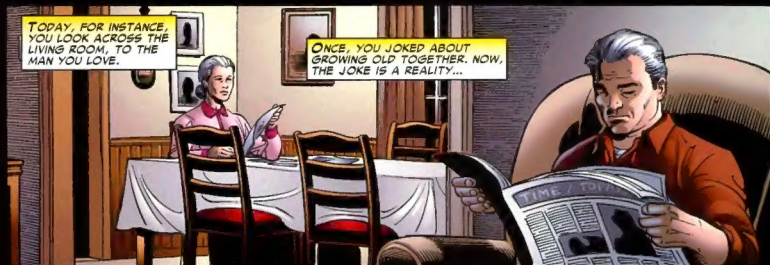
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AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT, YOU BELIEVE YOUR LIFE IS GOING TO GO A CERTAIN WAY.



TODAY, FOR INSTANCE, YOU LOOK ACROSS THE LIVING ROOM, TO THE MAN YOU LOVE.

ONCE, YOU JOKED ABOUT GROWING OLD TOGETHER. NOW, THE JOKE IS A REALITY...



...AND YOU REMIND YOURSELF, YET AGAIN, OF HOW LUCKY YOU ARE.

BEN...?



HOW BLESSED.

HM?

WHAT'S DOING OVER THERE, PRETTY LADY?



THE REST OF YOUR LIFE STRETCHES OUT BEFORE YOU...

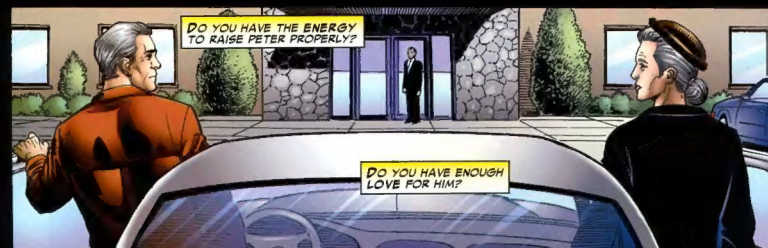
CLIPPING COUPONS TO KEEP US OUT OF THE POORHOUSE?

...AND EVERY DAY IS A PLEASURE, A GIFT, A COMFORT.



UNTIL THE PHONE IN THE KITCHEN RINGS.

BRILLING!
BRILLING!





YOU RACE TO
HIS RESCUE...



YOU TRY TO SQUEEZE
THE HURT AND SORROW
OUT OF HIM.

IT'S ALL
RIGHT. IT'S ALL
RIGHT. I'M HERE.
I'LL ALWAYS
BE HERE--



YOU HOLD HIM...

WOUNDS

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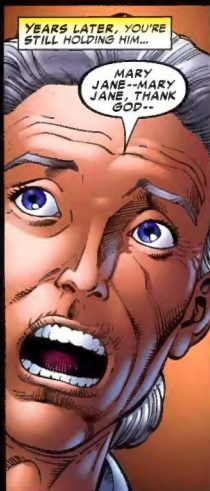
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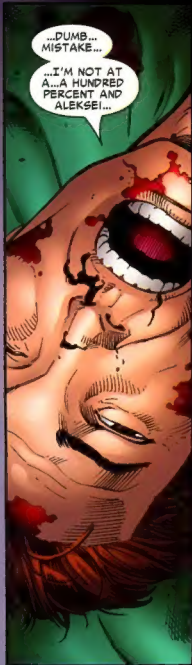
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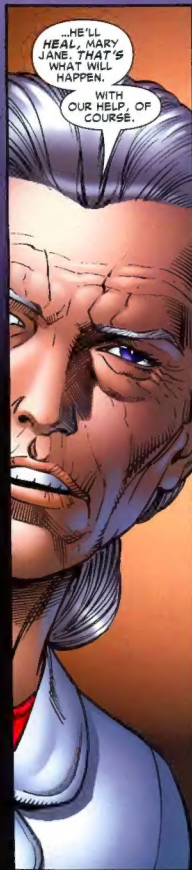
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"YEAH... I KIND OF DO, ACTUALLY..."

"I SHOULDN'T WONDER THE WAY YOU GOT ON TOGETHER."

"C'MON, PETE, IT'S EASY!"

"YOU GO AHEAD. I'LL WAIT HERE."



"WE USED TO PLAY...ALL THE TIME..."

"YOU DID, YES, UNTIL HE BROKE YOUR ARM."



"HE DID? WAIT, WHAT?"

"SEE? IT'S NOT SO BAD! C'MON, LET'S CLIMB HIGHER!"

"UHM, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS, TOMMY..."

"OH, IT WAS VERY TRAUMATIC, BELIEVE YOU ME. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'D SEEN YOU...YOU..."

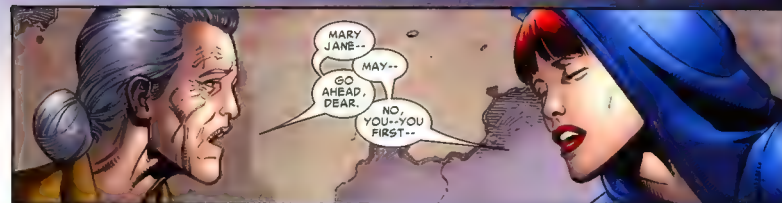
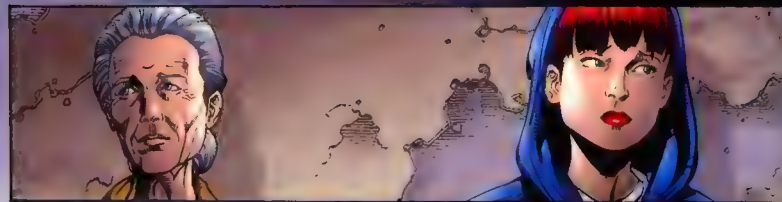
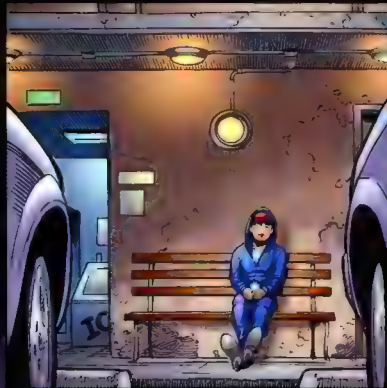


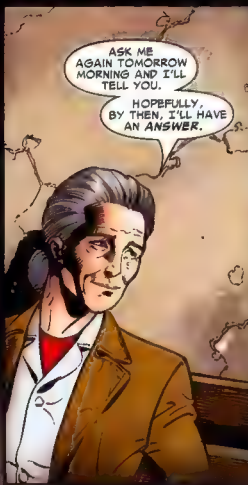
"SEEN ME WHAT, AUNT MAY?"



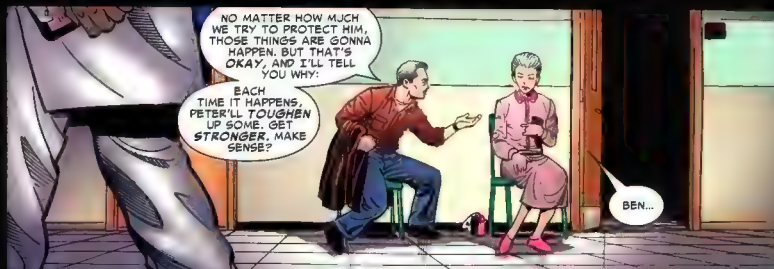
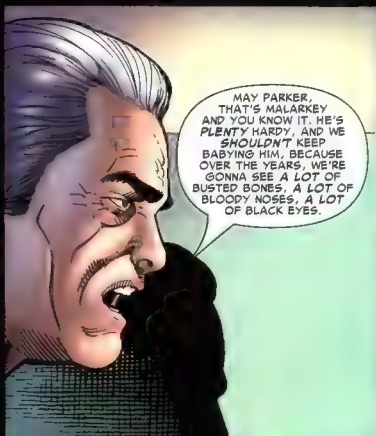
"... HURT, PETER."











INTERLUDE.

NEW YORK
AT NIGHT.

THE LONG-SHUTTERED
JUNGLE CLUB, DOWN
IN THE BOWERY.

JUNGLE CLUB

WHERE ELSE WOULD
YOU EXPECT TO FIND
A RHINO?

STUPID.

STUPID.

STUPID.

CHAMELEON
CAUGHT

NOT TO GET PAID
BY THE CHAMELEON
BEFOREHAND...

MURDER PLOT FOILED

...YES, ALEKSEI,
THAT WAS
STUPID.

ESPECIALLY NOW
THAT THE
CHAMELEON AND
HIS OTHER "DEADLY
FOES" ARE IN JAIL.

WHICH MEANS
YOU TOOK
SPIDER-MAN
DOWN FOR
NOTHING...

SKERASHK

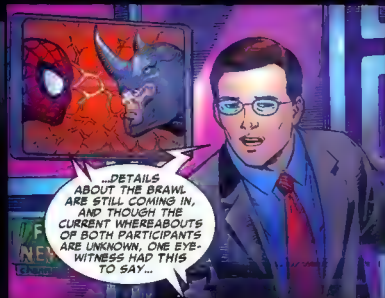
...AND ATTRACTED THE
ATTENTION OF GOD...
KNOWS-WHO IN THE
PROCESS.

SPIDER...?

--THE
FOLLOWING
FOOTAGE, A FOX
NEWS EXCLUSIVE, WAS
TAKEN BY A TOURIST ON
HIS WAY TO CENTRAL PARK...
IN IT, FUGITIVE-AT-LARGE
PETER PARKER, BETTER
KNOWN TO THE WORLD
AS THE ROGUE
SUPER HERO,
SPIDER-MAN...



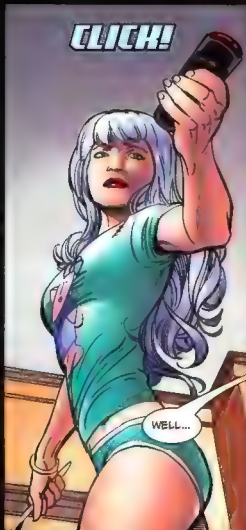
...IS
RECEIVING WHAT
IS PERHAPS A WELL-
DESERVED BEATING
AT THE HANDS OF HIS
FREQUENT NEMESIS
ALEKSEI SYTSEVICH,
A.K.A. THE
RHINO...



...DETAILS
ABOUT THE BRAWL
ARE STILL COMING IN,
AND THOUGH THE
CURRENT WHEREABOUTS
OF BOTH PARTICIPANTS
ARE UNKNOWN, ONE EYE-
WITNESS HAD THIS
TO SAY...



...I DON'T
KNOW WHAT, BUT
RHINO WAS ALL JACKED
UP ON SUMTHIN'...AND
SPIDEY...SPIDEY GOT A
SERIOUS BUTT-WHUPPIN'...
HE WAS ALL MESSED UP,
HOBBLING AND
WHATNOT...



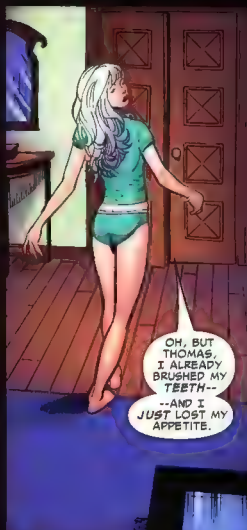
CLICK!

WELL...



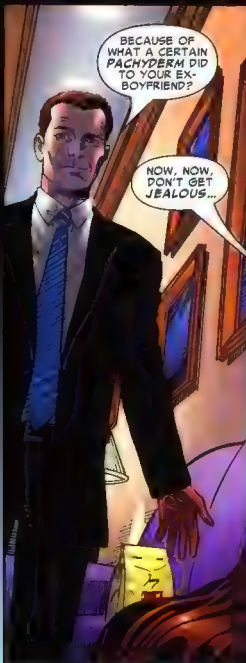
...AT LEAST
YOU DIDN'T TRASH
THE TELEVISION THIS
TIME.

I PICKED
UP SOME
FOOD, CAT. YOUR
FAVORITE.
SUSHI.



OH, BUT
THOMAS,
I ALREADY
BRUSHED MY
TEETH--

--AND I
JUST LOST MY
APPETITE.



BECAUSE OF
WHAT A CERTAIN
PACHYDERM DID
TO YOUR EX-
BOYFRIEND?

NOW, NOW,
DON'T GET
JEALOUS...



...ESPECIALLY
WHEN I WANT US
TO GO OUT AND
PAINT THE TOWN
RED.

END INTERLUDE.



YOU WASH...



YOU SCRUB...



YOU'VE BEEN
SCRUBBING FOR
DECADES NOW...



MRS.
PARKER...?



MRS. PARKER, I
CAME BY TO...CHECK
ON PETEY. TO...MAKE
SURE HE'S OKAY AND
EVERYTHING.







GO AHEAD.
TELL ME I'M
CRAZY.

AS A FOX,
BUT YOU KNOW
WHAT...?



...I WOULDN'T
WANT YOU TO
BE ANY OTHER
WAY.

ON TOP
OF WHICH, I
WANTED TO WRING
THAT KID'S NECK
SAME AS
YOU.

YOU REMEMBER WHAT
HIS ARMS FELT LIKE...



GHOST LIMBS WRAPPED
AROUND YOUR BODY...

YOU FORCE
YOURSELF
NOT TO CRY.

HEY,
AUNT MAY...



...HOW YOU
DOING WITH THAT
STINKY THING?



WELL, AFTER
IT SOAKS, I'LL HAVE
SOME SEWING TO DO,
SINCE IT'S STILL...

...UNLIKE YOU,
PETER DEAR,
WHO SEEM TO
HAVE SNAPPED
BACK.

YEP. FEEL
FREE TO CALL
ME RUBBER
BAND GUY, IF
YOU WANT...



...I'M ACTUALLY FEELING LIKE I'M AT...EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT. YOU KNOW I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A FAST HEALER, AUNT MAY, BUT NOW IT SEEMS LIKE I'M EVEN MORE OF ONE...

HEY, DO WE HAVE ANY FOOD LIKE HOSTESS TWINKIES? I'M STAH-ARE-VING...

DID SOMEBODY SAY "TWINKIES"...?



WHICH I JUST HAPPEN TO HAVE IN THIS BAG?

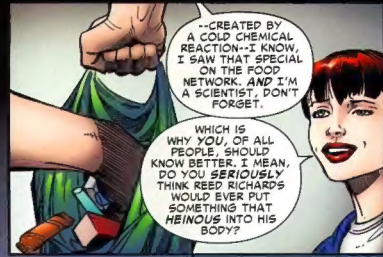


ARE YOU KIDDING?

MARY JANE--

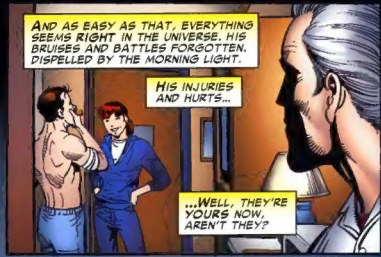
--WILL YOU MARRY ME?

BEFORE I ANSWER, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT I BLEW THE LAST OF OUR MONEY TO GET YOU THOSE TOXIC THINGS, WHICH AREN'T EVEN BAKED, BY THE WAY, THEY'RE--



--CREATED BY A COLD CHEMICAL REACTION--I KNOW, I SAW THAT SPECIAL ON THE FOOD NETWORK, AND I'M A SCIENTIST, DON'T FORGET.

WHICH IS WHY YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, SHOULD KNOW BETTER. I MEAN, DO YOU SERIOUSLY THINK REED RICHARDS WOULD EVER PUT SOMETHING THAT HEINOUS INTO HIS BODY?



AND AS EASY AS THAT, EVERYTHING SEEMS RIGHT IN THE UNIVERSE. HIS BRUISES AND BATTLES FORGOTTEN, DISPELLED BY THE MORNING LIGHT.

HIS INJURIES AND HURTS...

...WELL, THEY'RE YOURS NOW, AREN'T THEY?



EVERY SINGLE
SCAR HE CARRIES...

(...AND MANY
HE DOESN'T...)

...YOU DO,
AS WELL.



THEY'RE YOUNG.
THEY HAVEN'T
LEARNED YET...

THAT LIFE IS AN
ACCUMULATION OF
PAIN AND WOUNDS.
YOUR OWN. THOSE
BELONGING TO THE
PEOPLE YOU LOVE.



AT ANY GIVEN
MOMENT, YOU
BELIEVE YOUR LIFE
IS GOING TO GO
A CERTAIN WAY...



UNTIL--IN THE TIME IT
TAKES A SHEET TO BLOW
FREE--IT ALL CHANGES...



...AND ALL YOU'RE
LEFT WITH IS WOUNDS...

END.

KRYPTONIA

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